respective States. The Central Government do not maintain district-wise information but monitor the implementation of the programme at the Sate/UT level.

Conference of Energy Secretaries and SEB Chiefs

111. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Energy Secretaries and State Electricity Board Chiefs was convened recently by the Power Ministry as a follow up of last month's Chief Ministers Conference on evolving a common minimum power policy;

(b) whether it is a fact that States have rejected Power Ministry's proposals as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th November, 1996; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for the lack of consensus between Central Government and States in this regard and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Deviations from Rules for the S.S. Bhatnagar Awards

112. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of reports concerning deviations from normal rules for the S.S. Bhatnagar Awards announced this year;

(b) has the matter been enquired into; and

(c) whether such an enquiry has already substantiated the allegations; if so, the measures proposed to avoid repetition of similar incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGENDRA K.ALAGH): (a) and (b) The S.S. Bhatnagar Awards for 1996, announced on 26th September, 1996, fulfil the guidelines governing the Awards. No deviations from normal rules have been observed or reported. However, the basis of the SSB Awards in Physics for the year 1995 to two Scientists was questioned. A new high-powered committee was constituted to go into this matter *de novo*. The Committee recommended that the award be given to one Scientist, who fulfilled all the eligibility criteria. The award proposed to be given to this Scientist by the new high-powered committee was also contested in Hon'ble Delhi High Court on 26th September, 1996. The Hon'ble Delhi High Court upheld the recommendation of the high-powered committee.

(c) CSIR gives the awards on the recommendation of advisory committees. CSIR proposes to make the guidelines for this award more explicit and also advise the committees for strict compliance of these guidelines.

गुजरात में विद्युत क्षेत्र के लिए विश्व बैंक से ऋण

113. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात के विद्युत क्षेत्र में विकास, सुधार और विस्तार के लिए विश्व बैंक ने ऋण कब स्वीकृत किया था;

(ख) क्या उक्त ऋण राशि का पूरी तरह से उपयोग किया गया है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) गुजरात में विद्युत क्षेत्र की पुनर्संरचना संबंधी परियोजना के कब तक शुरू होने की संभावना है, और

(ङ) इस परियोजना के लिए किन-किन क्षेत्रों का अभिनिर्धारण किया गया है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गैर-पारंपरिक उर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डॉ० एस० वेणुगोपालाचारी): (क) गुजरात राज्य में विद्युत क्षेत्र में सुधार और पुनर्संरचना हेतु विश्व बैंक द्वारा कोई ऋण स्वीकृत नहीं किया गया है।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होते।